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Development of Standard Manufacturing Process and Process Validation of *Gandhaka*
***Shodhana* Strictly Adhering to Classical Literature**

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Abstract

Background: *Gandhaka*(Sulphur) is an important and commonly used drug in majority of herbo-mineral/herbo-metallic formulations used in *Ayurveda*. *Shuddha Gandhaka* (processed Sulphur) is used therapeutically externally as well as internally as a single drug or in combination with other drugs for a wide array of ailments especially for disorders affecting the integumentary system.

Objective: To establish the standard manufacturing procedure for *Gandhaka Shodhana* strictly adhering to classical literature and to develop an analytical profile of *Shuddha Gandhaka* prepared using this method using physicochemical parameters.

Materials and Methods: *Samanya Shodhana* of *Gandhaka* is done using two pharmaceutical processing steps namely, *Swedana* and *Dhalana*. A pilot batch along with three batches of 500 g batch size were prepared to standardise the procedure. *Shuddha Gandhaka* thus prepared was subjected to physicochemical analysis.

Results and Discussion: *Shodhita Gandhaka* from all the batches showed uniform organoleptic characteristics with bright yellow, lustreless, granules with no odour characteristic of Sulphur but with a slight milky odour.

Conclusion: The present study standardises the process of *Shodhana* of *Gandhaka* according to the Classical reference mentioned in *Rasa Ratna Samucchaya* and thus highlights the importance of adhering to the classical pharmaceutical process.

Keywords: *Gandhaka*, *Shodhana*, *Ayurveda*, *Rasa Ratna Samucchaya*

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